

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1-40 have been canceled. New claims 41-44 have been added and are pending in the application. In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-12, 14-17, and 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1-12, 14-17, and 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Sturgeon et al. (US 5,664,112). Claims 1-12, 14-17, and 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leal et al. (US 5,311,437). Claims 1-12, 14-17, and 39 have been canceled, and the rejection is now moot.

Regarding new claims 41-44, in light of the cited references, Sturgeon et al. and Leal et al. do not disclose, teach, or suggest the invention recited in new independent claim 41. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 41-44 are patentable over the cited references.

Dated: August 25, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Mark J. Thronson

Registration No.: 33,082

Rachael Lea Leventhal

Registration No.: 54,266

DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP

1825 Eye Street, NW

Washington, DC 20006-5403

(202) 420-2200

Attorneys for Applicants